GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4124
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2008
OUT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN
Reddy Shri K. Jayasurya Prakash

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there is considerable decline from 6.6% in 2006 to 4.2% in 2007 in the percentage of out of school children in the age group of 6-14;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) The present status of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) in Andhra Pradesh regarding the funds allocated and utilized;

(d) Whether any misuse of funds are reported in Andhra Pradesh under SSA during the last three years; and

(e) If so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A.FATMI)

(a) & (b) As per reports from States/UTs the number of out of schools children in the 6-14 years age group,have come down 5.3% in 2006 to 3.8% in 2007.

(c) Government of India has released Rs. 281 crore during 2007-2008, under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan(SSA)programme to Andhra Pradesh.

(d) & (e) According to the information furnished by the School Education Department,Government of Andhra Pradesh, and amount of Rs. 14,98,03,378/- of District Primary Education Programme/ Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan(SSA) had been diverted to unauthorized bank accounts by the Assistant Account Officer of SSA Society, Andhra Pradesh. A FIR was lodged by the SSA office with the City Central Crime Station on 02.04.2007.Subsequently, the State Government transferred the case to CID for further investigation. The Government of Andhra Pradesh also has on 25.05.2007 appointed a retired Judge of the High Court as Commission of the Inquiry under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952 to probe into all aspects of embezzlement including the circumstances or the lapses which led to embezzlement and to fix the responsibility on the persons allegedly involved. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has suspended three Accounts Officials and another three have been transferred out of the State Project Office of SSA/DPEP. In addition, Government of India has requested the Comptroller and Auditor General of India to carry out a special Audit of Account pertaining to DPEP and SSA for the period from 200-01 till date through the Andhra Pradesh State Accountant General (Audit) to ascertain the veracity of accounts.